



DOE DIALOGUE | Weekly Message from Superintendent Ritz

April 14, 2014

State Board of Education April 9th Update...

The CoreLink Online Pilot will not be administered this spring. The Department has been sensitive to the needs in the field and recommended to the State Board of Education that the one hour CoreLink set of college and career questions not be administered this May for the following reasons:

1. need to fully align the questions with our upcoming new standards
2. need to equip the questions to offer adaptations for students with special needs
3. need to adapt the questions to be accessible on iPads

The Assessment Subcommittee of the Board met on April 9th and will be forthcoming with a firm plan for college and career ready assessment transition for the 2014-15 school year. The subcommittee will also be developing the RFP process for college and career assessments for the 2015-16 school year.

Indiana Academic Standards for English Language Arts and Mathematics

Update We are very pleased to announce that this week a draft version of the Indiana Academic Standards for English Language Arts and Mathematics will be released. The draft will be posted on the IDOE website prior to Wednesday, April 16. The draft you will see has been through many rigorous rounds of updates since the first draft was published for online comment.

The changes from the first draft to this latest draft were informed through public testimony, online feedback from 2066 Hoosiers, direct work by educators from across Indiana with over 400 years combined teaching experience, additional work by members of the higher education and business community as they assessed the Indiana Academic Standards through the lens of what students in Indiana should know and be able to do to be college and career ready upon graduation, and through integration of feedback from national experts in the field of standards. “The reports from national experts will also be available at the same time on the Indiana Department of Education website, as well as a summary with regards to how the expert feedback informed the draft.

Next steps in the process towards the State Board of Education adoption of Indiana Academic Standards on April 28 at 9:00 a.m. will be a presentation of the draft standards on Monday, April 21, at the Education Roundtable Meeting, which is scheduled to take place at 2:00 p.m. in the Indiana Government Center South. At that time, the Education Roundtable will be provided a resolution to recommend the standards to the State Board of Education.

We are very hopeful that the results of the Education Roundtable and State Board of

Education meetings will enable the Indiana Department of Education to publish the newly adopted Indiana Academic Standards for English Language Arts and Mathematics following the action of the State Board of Education on April 28th.

Standards Implementation survey...

The Indiana Department of Education is preparing implementation guidance and supports for schools. It is our goal to provide the education community with support opportunities and materials that are most meaningful. To inform this work, ***we are seeking your input through a brief survey***, found here. ([survey link](#)) The results of this survey will provide direction to the Indiana Department of Education regarding your priority needs during this transition to the proposed standards. Therefore, after the release of the draft standards on Wednesday, we would ask that you **share this survey link with your teachers and ask them to join you** in providing us with feedback on how we can best support local efforts.

After the standards have been approved and implementation has begun, the IDOE will again reach out to you regarding your local plans and further needs for implementation.

Thank you to all of the Indiana educators that took part in this process to evaluate the Indiana Academic Standards for English Language Arts and Mathematics. And, thank you in advance for your participation in this survey. <http://form.jotformpro.com/form/40693947770972>

Keep in touch. Feel free to leave comments at doecomm@doe.in.gov.

Sincerely,

Glenda Ritz, Superintendent of Public Instruction

NOTE: * indicates data information requirements for ALL public schools, including charter schools.

Memorandum

MEMORANDUM: CoreLink Update, At the request of the State Board of Education, the CoreLink Online Pilot assessment will not be administered this spring. During their orientation meeting this week, the State Board of Education Assessment Subcommittee began the process of exploring Indiana's transition to college-and-career ready assessments and the future of assessment in the Hoosier state. Please watch for more information regarding the transition plans in the coming weeks and months.

As a result of the State Board of Education decision, the remaining CoreLink TAS Training sessions will no longer be offered, a recorded version of the training will not be posted, and the CoreLink Online Pilot content will not be available for download. Many thanks to Corporation Test Coordinators and Technology Coordinators who already attended a CoreLink TAS Training session. Your questions and feedback were much appreciated.

If you have questions, please contact the Indiana Department of Education Office of Student Assessment by calling 317.232.9050.

MEMORANDUM: "Connecting Careers & Classrooms" is a series that will provide middle school and high school counselors, teachers and administrators the tools and information they need to help advise and prepare students for the jobs of the 21st century. The first event takes place on **Thursday, April 17** at

Beck's Hybrids Headquarters in Atlanta Indiana and focuses on agribusinesses.

This is a series intended to bridge the gap between various sectors of our economy and our schools while providing educators an inside look at leading employers and the workforces they need. Our upcoming event will also highlight current best practices between educators and entrepreneurs that bring together students and career exploration.

If you're an educator please consider signing up. If you happen to know of a counselor, teacher or administrator who may be interested in attending, please consider forwarding this email. Attendees will receive documentation for up to 6 and a half hours of Professional Growth Points. Future events on sectors such as life sciences and technology will be announced. To learn more about this important event, [click here](#) or email Andy King at Andy.King@mail.house.gov

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MEMORANDUM: A national research collaborative - headed by Dr. Russell Skiba of Indiana University - has recently received much attention for its findings regarding disparities in school discipline. A chief finding is that African Americans and students with disabilities are suspended at disproportionate rates. The collaborative has published three briefing papers on their research aimed at different audiences. One of the briefing papers is targeted toward educators and offers recommendations on intervention strategies and effective approaches to school discipline. Read the [briefing](#) to get ideas as to how you can implement effective and equitable interventions in your school.

MEMORANDUM: The Hoosier Family of Readers is an initiative to build a culture of readers in the state of Indiana. But in order to read, kids need books! That's why the Hoosier Family of Readers is excited to partner with nonprofit [First Book](#) to help you and your Family of Readers access **brand new, free and low-cost books**. First Book is a nonprofit social enterprise that distributes tens of millions of new books and educational resources every year to schools and programs serving children in need nationwide. [Sign up](#) for First Book now to get access free and low-cost brand new books for students in need! Signing up is free and easy. For more information, contact the First Book Help Team at (800) READ-NOW or help@firstbook.org

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MEMORANDUM: 2014 Summer of eLearning, The best way to shake off a miserable winter is to make plans for an amazing summer! Registrations are now beginning to open at many of the 19 host sites of the 2014 Summer of eLearning. Nearly 6,000 Indiana educators attended last year, and there are even more opportunities for you to learn with us this year. Dive in at www.doe.in.gov/elearning/2014-summer-elearning to find locations near you. For more information contact Jason Bailey, Senior eLearning Strategist, jbailey@doe.in.gov

Information From Other Agencies

NorthWest Indiana Education Service Center, NWI Public School Study Council, The documentary film "[Rise above the Mark](#)" will be presented to the greater Northwest Indiana School Community, please invite your friends, the business community, and chamber members. All must **register** and print out a ticket to attend, there is *no cost to attend* a showing. Enjoy the documentary trailers: <https://www.youtube.com/user/riseabovethemark>

Chesterton High School Theater will host a 5:30 p.m. CST showing Wed, April 30th 2125 South 11th Street, Chesterton, IN 46304, enter "door 31" https://reg.abcsignup.com/reg/event_page.aspx?ek=0004-0003-7276060E18524BFB99183FC81B7E09A3

Hobart High School Theater will host a 7:00 p.m. CST showing Wed, April 30th Enter at light off Union Street, 2211 East 10th Street, Hobart, IN 46342, park and enter "door 21" https://reg.abcsignup.com/reg/event_page.aspx?ek=0004-0003-

[76539415fabb4a5fa109bc6077a651d2](#)

The film is sixty five (65) minutes in length, for more information - www.nwiesc.k12.in.us office
219.926.5555

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